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RISING POWERS, SHRINKING PLANET: The New Geopolitics of Energy

By Michael Klare

“If you want to understand the future of international relations, worry less about ideology and more about oil reserves. Michael Klare's superb new book explains, in haunting detail, the trends that will lead us into a series of dangerous traps, unless we muster the will to transform the way we use energy in this country. As illuminating as it is unsettling.”

—Bill McKibben, author of *The Bill McKibben Reader*

No longer does the possession of a powerful military guarantee the United States its dominant position in the world. A new political landscape has formed, one in which nations with colossal reserves of oil, natural gas and other sources of primary energy wield disproportionate power. Bestselling author of the now-classic *Resource Wars* **Michael Klare** argues that the struggle over energy has become the central dynamic of world affairs in his revealing new book, **RISING POWERS, SHRINKING PLANET: The New Geopolitics of Energy** (Metropolitan Books; April 15, 2008; \$26.00).

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A preeminent expert on resource geopolitics, Klare examines how an intensifying competition for energy is changing the way policymakers are looking at our world. Regions that once held abundant raw materials, but have been depleted of their original natural wealth, are losing much of their power, while areas with untapped energy and mineral reserves have suddenly acquired global significance. **RISING POWERS, SHRINKING PLANET** shows how this changing situation is causing energy-deficient countries to forge strategic partnerships with friendly energy-rich states, often cemented by massive arms transfers, troop deployments, and military alliances. Klare warns that if we continue to compete for the planet's vital resources, "we will witness unending crisis and conflict over what remains of value on our barren wasteland." And he points to the innovative policy changes at the national and international level— including the development of new energy sources and climate-friendly industrial processes—that can make a difference.

Thoroughly researched, **RISING POWERS, SHRINKING PLANET** is an indispensable account of how the world's diminishing sources of energy are radically changing the balance of power.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: **Michael T. Klare** is the author of thirteen books, including *Blood and Oil* and *Resource Wars*. A regular contributor to *Harper's*, *Foreign Affairs*, and the *Los Angeles Times*, he is the defense analyst for *The Nation* and the director of the Five College Program in Peace and World Security Studies at Hampshire College in Amherst.

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